Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC)
Summary of Minutes - Regular Public Meeting
Tuesday, January 21, 2014 - 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

DRAFT – *Not Yet Approved by the SIEC*

SIEC Members Present
- Mark Venuti, Director, Guardian Medical Transport (Co-Chair)
- Mike Sacco, Captain, Pima County Sheriff's Office (Co-Chair)
- Jesse Cooper, Communications IT Project Manager, Phoenix Police Department
- Pete Weaver, Director, Maricopa County Department of Emergency Management
- Jeremy Knoll, Telecommunications Systems Maintenance Supervisor, Arizona Department of Public Safety

SIEC Members Not Present
    N/A

Public Safety Interoperable Communications (PSIC) Office Attendees:
- Justin Turner, Statewide Interoperability Coordinator
- Karen Allen, Project Manager
- Michael Britt, Project Manager
- Glade Jarman, Project Manager
- Greg Sundie, Project Manager
- Kyle Stephens, Project Coordinator

29 interested parties and members of the public were also present either in person or on the web conference.

Call to Order
The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM by Mark Venuti, Co-Chair. Roll call was taken as noted above, and a quorum was declared present.

Approval of Meeting Minutes: October 15, 2012 SIEC Public Meeting
Action Item
Motion: Mike Sacco made a motion to approve the October minutes.
Second: Jesse Cooper
Jeremy Knoll corrected his title to read, "Telecommunications Systems Maintenance Supervisor", after which the motion was unanimously carried.

Request for Recommendation to Waive SAFECOM Grant Guidance Regarding Purchase of non-P25 Equipment
Action Item
Presenter: Don Peyton, CERT Coordinator, Homeland Defense Bureau, City of Phoenix
Justin Turner introduced the motion by going over requirements for new radios purchased under the SAFECOM Grant program, part of which is that new radios must be P25 compliant. The City of Phoenix is in the process of seeking a waiver from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security from the SAFECOM grant guidance to allow ham radio components, which are not P25 compliant. This process requires a resolution of recommendation from the SIEC, which would not be an approval of the concept or the funding, only a recommendation to the Department of Homeland Security that SAFECOM Grant

Guidance be waived for this project. Several strategic initiatives in the SCIP support the purchase of this equipment, but indirectly as amateur equipment is not mentioned in the SCIP.

Don Peyton described how the City of Phoenix has purchased ham radio equipment before through a grant. These radios have been in use, in conjunction with a mobile repeater, for many years to provide communications wherever they deploy. Ham radio is not new for the City. Heretofore, the City has been using private repeaters to support these radios, which requires permission from the repeater's owner. The City is asking to purchase their own repeaters to streamline the process they are already using.

Harold Pierson, also of the City of Phoenix, described how the purchase of two new ham radio repeaters would give significantly improved radio coverage for Fire Department operations around White Tanks and Thompson's Peak. Pete Weaver added that this kind of radio coverage has been invaluable to him as an Emergency Manager in the past. Mark Venuti asked which grant paid for the ham radio equipment to be purchased before. Pierson and Jesse Cooper answer that it was a UASI grant that allowed the City to purchase repurposed radio equipment that is presently in use.

Peyton further explained that some equipment is sitting idle because it is unusable without the repeaters that would be purchased. Cooper explained that there is funding available for this purchase, but the grant rules must be waived for the purchase. Mike Sacco asked who will be using the system. Peyton answered that the repeaters would be open and available for anyone to use, even amateur radio users during non-emergency and non-exercise times. Mr. Sacco asked about the backhaul maintenance of the repeaters and whether the radios would operate without repeater support. Pierson answered that the radios and repeaters are treated as public safety radios and are supported and maintained as such, but they cannot operate without the backhaul being active.

Mark Venuti asked for any further comment. Mike Sacco added that this action is only the SIEC's recommendation to lift the rules in this specific case, not for all ham radio purchases in the future. Pete Weaver motions to support the recommendation, Jesse Cooper seconds. The motion passes unanimously.

Federal Law Enforcement Communication Center
Information and Discussion Item
Presenter: Fred Silvers, District Manager, Bureau of Land Management
Presenter: Toni Suminski, Lead Mission Support Technician, Bureau of Land Management

Fred Silvers began the presentation by describing that the Federal Law Enforcement Communication Center (FLECC) is a regional law enforcement dispatch center manned 24/7 throughout the year. It usually handles agency calls, not public calls. The FLECC supports Bureau of Indian Affairs, National Park Service, Forest Service, and others. The LMR system is used primarily in these communications, in addition to Sat radio and the Skymira web-based tracking system, all covering 39,000,000 square acres

Toni Suminski added that the FLECC supports standard calls, but also supports investigative work. Mission support maintains knowledge of an extensive area, incorporating multiple agencies across multiple states and federal lands. The FLECC also supports resource theft, trespassing, mining rights, border issues, hunting, and recreation activities. In addition, they process criminal justice inquiries, investigative inquiries, and the activities of 200+ federal officers, K9 handlers, and special agents. The FLECC supports integration of new technology, special operations, and law enforcement flights by using a Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD), Motorola 7500 radios, with supporting computer and web-based programs.

The FLECC will be joining the South East Arizona Communications Talk Group (SEACCTG), which will allow them direct communications with AZ agencies. This will support the missions of both AZ and FLECC.

When the presentation was opened for questions, Mark Venuti asked whether the FLECC could operate on AIRS frequencies. Suminski answered that as of now, the only interoperable channels between FLECC and Arizona state and local agencies is the SEACCTG.

Statewide Policies, Standards, and Procedures Quarterly Review: Governance PSPs
Information and Discussion Item
Presenter: Gregory Sundie, Project Manager, PSIC Office
After introducing himself and giving a brief overview of his military experience, Greg Sundie reviewed the Annual Review Process of the Governance PSPs. The two documents being reviewed are the PSCC Operating Principles Document and the SIEC Operating Principles Document. Each document is reviewed for conformance with SCIP initiatives, NECP, NIMS-ICS, and guidance from other agencies. Beginning Jan 21, the Governance PSPs will be reviewed and updated in time for approval in April.

For the PSCC operating principles document, there were no changes identified in the core content after a staff review. Possible changes include conversion to the new template with minor additional content, streamlining strategic initiative sections, and changes clarifying executive session information. The SIEC had no additional feedback for this document.

For the SIEC operating principles document, there were no changes identified in the core content after a staff review. Possible changes include application of standard method of referencing statutes, enhancing meeting notice information, adding an executive session information section, and adding a conflicts of interest section. The SIEC had no feedback for this document.

Mr. Sundie requested stakeholders provide comments to the PSIC Office by January 20. Following incorporation of comments, an initial revised draft of each document will be sent out in February, with approval drafts in March.

National Public Safety Broadband Network (NPSBN) Update
Information and Discussion Item
Presenter: Michael Britt, Project Manager, PSIC Office
Michael Britt presented updates for both the Arizona FirstNet working group and the FirstNet efforts nationwide. For Arizona, a request for proposal (RFP) has been sent through the State Procurement Office for meeting management services to help handle the many outreach meetings being planned. Dr. Britt is also developing content for educational and outreach meetings, as well as beginning the process of conducting meetings with regional wireless systems. There is an upcoming OEC Broadband Coverage Workshop which will be a three hour coverage workshop to introduce concepts and criteria to help determine what the AZPSBN will need in terms of coverage and capacity. County Kickoff meetings for Broadband are being planned for each county, to included education, outreach, and information collection activities. Dr. Britt is also developing a process for tracking and reporting various FirstNet activities.

The national FirstNet board met in December, approving certain local leases and waivers, but denying requested waivers for San Francisco's Bay-RICS system and for the State of Missouri. They approved charters of their Governance and Personnel, Finance, Outreach, and Technology and Planning committees and started to define criteria for determining readiness of a state to begin consultations.

PSIC Office Multiple Project Updates
Information and Discussion Item
Presenter: Karen Allen, Project Manager, PSIC Office
Karen Allen gave a high level overview of the Multiple Projects update document. The important upcoming events are the Homeland Security Grant Program information seminars, the Senior Advisory Committee meeting, and the Regional Outreach meetings. Arizona has received three TAs for 2014 so far: the COMT Train-the-Trainer, the Communications Unit Exercise, and the Tactical Interoperable Communications Field Operations Guide (TIC-FOG) development workshop.

The Yuma BIDP project is now working on PSPs based on feedback from their functional exercise. The Navajo Nation TA has a training workshop planned on Feb 19 to further that project. A schedule has been set for regional meetings to setup local workgroups, conduct outreach, and work with stakeholders.

Justin Turner highlighted the PSCC sunset review. The statutory authority of the PSCC is currently set to expire on July 1, 2014. On October 23, 2013, the Senate Public Safety & House Public Safety, Military & Regulatory Affairs Committees conducted a Sunset Review of the PSCC and voted to extend the PSCC through 2016, and require another review in June 2015. The bill to extend the PSCC's authority and budget (HB2136) has been drafted. This legislation will continue the PSCC until July 1, 2016 and requires PSIC to submit a sunset report on or before June 30, 2015.

Additional updates included:
- Every county has a TICP, though some require formal approval.
- The Public Safety Library, supported by OEC, provides a central place for public safety documents, with apps for mobile access.
- RICO project has gone live on Jan 1, providing a common dispatch channel for improved communications speed. Cochise County has taken the lead for this program. Jesse Cooper asked whether this is riding off of the Yuma system. Allen answered that it is, but that the channels are not yet integrated.
- The video from the Value Proposition for COMLs Seminar is now available online.
- Two new COMLs have been recognized: Frank Brady and Ian James.
- The COMU Training Field Day will be held Feb 19. Acceptance letters have been sent and frequent planning meetings are occurring.
- The Western Regional APCO conference is coming up in May.

Call to the Public
There were no comments from the public.

Meeting Adjournment
Motion: Mike Sacco motioned to adjourn the meeting.
Second: Jesse Cooper
The motion was unanimously carried.
Meeting Adjourned at 11:16 AM.

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Pursuant to A.R.S. 38-341-01(B), minutes of the Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee are recorded by tape recorder. Taped minutes are maintained in the office of the Arizona Strategic Enterprise Technology. Public access and review of SIEC minutes are available by appointment Monday through Friday during normal business hours. Please contact the PSIC office at 364-4498 to arrange for an audio of the tape-recorded proceedings.